

Dear Members of the Appropriations Committee (Senator Osten, Senator Formica and Representative Walker),

My name is Anna Kruger-Dull and I am currently a senior in the theatre department at the Educational Center for the Arts. ECA has been a large part of my life for the past three and a half years and has changed me for the better in many ways. ECA is the type of school that not only encourages kindness, but demands it. I would not be the actor I am today if instead of supporting me, my classmates judged me. Everyone who attends ECA has the ability to grow artistically because of the wonderful atmosphere it cultivates and the motivated students is attracts. There are so many amazing facts about ECA, and there is no other school like it. My sending school tried hard to teach my classmates and me that it is vital to be able to work well with others, but at ECA I was actually taught how to do that. ECA is also unlike any other school because of the teachers. They are knowledgeable, but more importantly, they are the most caring people I have ever met. My teachers actually listen to me, listen to my ideas, my worries, my successes. And they care about every single one of their students. Before ECA I had never met a teacher who asked how I was, and honestly wanted to hear the answer. They know when I am having an off day and try their hardest to help. I would not be the person I am today without these people to guide me. ECA has encouraged me to follow my heart, and I will always be thankful for that. ECA introduced me to technical theatre, which I am going to study in college. I can honestly say I would have never found my true calling if it weren't for ECA. For these reasons and many more, I urge you to maintain full funding for magnet schools. ECA had touched so many lives and has to ability to touch many more.

Thank you,
Anna Kruger-Dull
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